Demand.	Amount in Rupees.	Particulars.
XXIX. Stationery and Printing.	2,250	To meet the special charges incurred for the despatch of the Police Gazette.
XXX. A. Museum	500	For expenditure on account of taking plaster-casts of sculptures in the Sri Padmanabhaswami Temple and for purchasing two stone reliefs from the owner of a private temple at Thrivikramangalam.
F. Preservation of Oriental Literature.	900	For giving bonus to Mr. Sambasiva Sastri for his commentary on Narayaneeyam.
XXXI. 41-Miscellaneous.	10,000	For carrying out measures for alleviating the hardships due to water scarcity in South Travancore.

President's statement.

PRESIDENT: The Government have been for some years trying to deal with the problem of agricultural indebtedness in the State. As early as 9th January 1935 Government appointed the Agricultural Debt Redemption Committee to enquire into the question and to suggest such measures of relief as could be given effect to. Their report was duly considered and two Statutes "the Agriculurists" Relief Act (Act III of 1112)" and "the Credit Bank Act (Act IV of 1113)" were passed into law. Under the former, the Debt Conciliation Boards, and under the latter the Credit Bank were established. Statistics relating to the working of the Conciliation Boards do not, in the opinion of Government, justify the expectation that any appreciable result could be achieved by the system under which the Boards are functioning at present. In the year 1113, there were seven Boards conciliating debts in different centres in the State. While the total number of applications which the Boards had to deal with was 3572 covering a total debt of Rs. 56,26,972, the number of cases in which conciliation was effected and agreements were actually executed was only 241 covering a total debt of Rs. 3,61,084, conciliated for Rs, 2,90,776. This has resulted in a total reduction of such debts only by Rs. 70,308. The

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total expenditure incurred by Government for the purpose during the year amounted to Rs. 60,411. The current year's results are no better than the previous years's. As the security offered is inadequate for the relative debts, the Credit Bank, it is reported, is unable to render substantial help to the parties who have effected settlements. Neither the creditor nor the debtor seems to be able or very willing to take advantage of the machinery so far provided by Government. The two Agriculturists Relief Act (Amendment) Bills pending discussion in the Sri Mulam Assembly and the Sri Chitra State Council and the numerous representations made to Government by the interests concerned are clear indications of the urgent desire that, if possible, more effective steps should be taken for the relief of indebted agriculturists. Government also are satisfied that a change in the law and the system of conciliation is necessary.

The enactments now in force in British India and in several of the Indian States recognise and give effect to the element of compulsion in conciliation but the extent to which compulsion is justifiable or expedient is a debatable point. The conditions affecting the agriculturists in the State and the problems relating to their indebtedness cannot be said to be uniform in all localities in India, and Travancore presents several special features one of which is the circumstance that many of the creditors are also debtors and that there is no specific money-lending community in the State. The question as to the extent to which legislation may be embarked upon therefore deserves further and closer scrutiny. Government have therefore decided to appoint a Committee to go into the whole question of agricultural and industrial indebtedness and the proper mode of dealing with it and to report to Government their conclusions *inter alia* regarding the extent to which compulsion may be resorted to in scaling down and settling the existing debts, the legal procedure to achieve this end and their suggestions for keeping down the abnormal growth in the volume of future debts that may be incurred by the agriculturists and small industrialists in the State.

The Committee will consist of twelve members of whom M. R. Ry., Dewan Bahadur Rajyasevadurandara V. S. Subramonia Aiyar Avl., will be the Chairman. The Sri Mulam Assembly and the Sri Chitra State Council will elect four representatives from amongst them, three from the Assembly and one from the Council, as members of the Committee. Messrs N. Venkatachalam Aiyar Advocate, Alleppey, K. V. Joseph, Pottankulam, Kanjirappalli, T. Kumara Pillai, Kalkulam, Rao Bahadur Rajyasevanirata Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai, and Mr. C. O. Madhavan; and two officers of Government namely, Mr. M. Ramachandra Rao, Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner and Mr. S. Krishna Pillai, Legal Remembrancer to Government are nominated as other members of the Committee.

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[President]

It is hoped that this committee will, as soon as possible, produce not only their recommendations but a Draft Bill for considerations by this House. The House will be requested to elect the members to serve on that committee in the course of to day or to-morrow and due notice will be given for the same.

DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS.

I. Land Revenue and Taxes on Income.

MR. M. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Sir, I rise to move for a grant of Rs. 3050 for the following items.

(*i*) Additional grant for the T. A. of the members of the Jenmikaram Commutation Committee—Rs. 1,150;

(*ii*) Additional grants of Rs. 1,500 under T. A. and of Rs. 400 under Anchal charges in the Budget of the Income Tax Department.

In regard to the first item, I wish to submit that a sum of Rs. 1,150 is necessary to meet the T. A. charges of the members of the Jenmikaram Commutation Committee. The original amount sanctioned was Rs. 2,000 and it is found to be inadequate. As T. A. has to be paid to the members of the Committee the allotment is necessary.

As regards the additional grant of Rs. 1,500 under T. A., I have to say that the amount originally saved for the T. A. of Income Tax officers is already spent and the amount now asked for is absolutely necessary. In regard to the additional allotment under Anchal charges, I may say that difficulty is being experienced by the Deputy Commissioner and the three Income Tax Collectors in the matter of despatch of letters and notices to assessees for want of stamps. Correspondence has increased of late and as the provision is exhausted, an additional grant af Rs. 400 is required. I request that the House will accord their assent to this demand.

MR. K. P. KOCHUKORA THARAKAN: ജന്മികരം കമ്മുട്ടേഷൻ കമ്മറിയെ നിയമിച്ചുകഴിഞ്ഞോ?

MR. M. RAMACHANDRA RAO: കഴിഞ്ഞു.

PRESIDENT: The question before the House is that the additional grant to the extent af Rs. 3,050 be granted under Land Revenue and Taxes on Income. The motion was put and carried.

The grant was made.

II. Medical.

VAIDYASASTRAKUSALA DR. (MRS.) M. POONEN LUKOSE: Sir, I beg to move for a supplementary grant of Rs. 5,500 for the supply of coal gas to the General Hospital, Trivandrum, during 1113 and 1114. The coal gas supply to the General Hospital is being used for sterilising

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